

tonight



THE WEATHER

Forecast: Fair.	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	60	8-15	17
Golan	58	5-14	15
Nahariya	58	5-13	15
Safed	56	6-11	14
Haifa Port	57	11-20	21
Tiberias	67	10-18	20
Nazareth	68	10-17	19
Afula	61	8-19	21
Shomron	61	9-18	18
Tel Aviv	69	12-19	20
B-C Airport	65	10-21	22
Jericho	56	9-23	24
Gaza	68	11-19	20
Sderiya	67	10-20	22
Blat	59	10-22	23
Tiran Straits	59	15-24	25

Social and Personal

President Ephraim Katzir yesterday received MK Yosef Burg, the former Interior Minister, who presented him with the Goldmann Medal which he was awarded by the World Jewish Congress in Geneva. The President also received Justice Minister Haim Zadok.

Knesset Speaker Yisrael Yeshayahu yesterday met with a delegation of the British Jewish Board of Deputies, headed by Lord Fisher and Lord Janner.

Staying at the King David Hotel: Prof. Nezer, New York University; Ambassador Bachetti, the Italian Ambassador; Senator D. Ornato of France; Dr. Charles Fincham, South African Ambassador; and Prof. Salido, Rector of the University of Mexico. (Communicated)

Visiting musicians at the Rubin Academy of Music, Jerusalem, in the past month have included: Professor Francois Bernier, Head of the Department of Music and Musicology at Ottawa University, who lectured on music in Canada today, and conducted the Academy Choir in a work of the Canadian composer Pierre Mercure. He also met with faculty members to discuss problems of musical education. Flautist Karl-Bernard Sehon of the Berlin Broadcasting Orchestra, who appeared in a programme spanning 300 years of flute music. The South African Youth Chamber Orchestra which performed for students of the High School of the Rubin Academy of Music, Jerusalem and Academy students. A Hanukka get-together was organized by the High School students. (Communicated)

ARRIVALS

George Jessel, veteran American Jewish comedian and toastmaster, to attend the planting ceremony of 1,000 trees in a Jewish National Fund forest for which he collected funds.

Mrs. Jeanie Gilbert, president of the Irish Women of Ireland, for a three week visit (by El Al).

Aguda loses attempt to amend Law of Return

By AARON SITTNER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A new attempt to amend the Law of Return so that the only proselytized as Jews would be those who had been converted "according to Halacha" was defeated by the Knesset yesterday by a vote of 39-25.

The amendment was presented by Rabbi Shlomo Lorincz and Rabbi Kalman Kahana of the Tora Front. On the vote, they were supported by the National Religious Party and the Herut wing of the Likud.

The Law of Return recognizes as Jewish any person born of a Jewish mother, provided he does not belong to another religion, and persons who were "converted" to Judaism, without any qualification as to the nature of their conversion.

Referring to the Supreme Court's "Who is a Jew" ruling in 1970, Lorincz noted that it was sparked by a demand from Rav-Seren (later Ahuf-Mishne) Binyamin Shalit, a Navy psychologist, that his children, born of his non-Jewish wife, be listed as Jews in the Population Registry.

"Well, where is Shalit and his family today, after fighting so hard for the right of being considered as Jews?" Lorincz asked. "The Shalit have emigrated from Israel."

Lorincz also quoted former Prime Minister Golda Meir as having told the Knesset that "safeguarding the religious uniqueness of the Jewish people was even more important than safeguarding the State of Israel."

"Only by insisting on Halachic conversions can we safeguard this uniqueness," said Lorincz. "So to do, when the Jewish People is so tormented by widespread assimilation and intermarriage, why all this opposition to inserting the require-

ment of Halachic conversion in the Law of Return?"

Replying for the Government yesterday, Justice Minister Haim Zadok quoted his predecessor, former Justice Minister Yisroel Shimon Shapira, who had said that because of the variegated nature of Jewish community life all over the world it was not proper for an Israeli law to be too specific on the matter of conversion.

"Whoever arrives in this country with a certificate of conversion from a Jewish community anywhere in the world will be accepted and recognized as being Jewish as long as he is not at the same time a member of another religious faith," Zadok quoted Shapira as saying.

Zadok added: "Both the Law of Return and the Law of Population Registry are secular statutes whose execution are in the province of Ministry of Interior officials. And, as Shapira stated, 'When the subject in question applies for permission to marry — then and only then will the Government aver that it is no longer a party to the problem, since marriage and divorce are in the domain of the rabbinical authorities.'"

In an amusing conclusion to his reply — just 48 hours after the National Religious Party was ousted from the coalition — Zadok declared: "The Government this afternoon considers itself still bound to the status-quo agreement on religious matters. And I must also admit, though I fear that by now it is only of historical interest, that the NRP, in its coalition agreement with us in 1974, reserved the right to vote for amendment of the Law of Return if and when such an amendment was proposed and regardless of which party or faction proposed it."

And so it was yesterday: all NRP members raised their hands when the vote was taken.

'Busing' for integration seen in Israel schools

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The neighbourhood school concept — even for primary grades — may soon be abandoned in order to promote better integration between children from western and Afro-Asian backgrounds.

Speaking in the Knesset after a charge by Habib Shimon (Alignment) that school integration is falling, Minister of Education Aharon Yadin said "wider regional registration schemes" for primary school grades may be instituted next year. "This means," he added, "that education administrators would have the authority to assign children from a wider area in such a manner as to ensure a more proper mix of socially disadvantaged children with those of more fortunate backgrounds."

Shimon said the national busing (junior high school) scheme now being tried "is a good experiment, and we hope it will further integration. But an effort must also be made in the primary grades. Why wait till a child is 12 before exposing him to children of other backgrounds?"

Yadin told the House he believes resistance to social integration in the schools is strongest among parents who send their children to state-religious schools, "where children of Afro-Asian families comprise 80 per cent of the enrollment."

"Our policy is definitely one of promoting integration," he added. "But executing that policy is a very delicate matter. We believe a longer school day is a right step in that direction, and so will be our expanded regional registration scheme. However, if these measures will not help significantly, we shall not hesitate to propose legislation aimed at improving integration in the schools." He did not elaborate.

The Shimon motion was referred to the Education Committee.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM is sending out an additional shipment of aid to Turkish earthquake victims. This shipment contains 25 special kerosene heaters for use inside tents and was passed on to the MDA and by the Foreign Ministry. (Itim)

Holon Hanukka party

HOLON — Three hundred and sixty slum children lit the seventh Hanukka candle last night at a party organized for them by the local Rotary Club. Each child was given gifts of toys, games, books, clothing and shoes collected by Rotarians and contributed by manufacturers and businessmen. (Itim)

On the fifth anniversary of the death of our dear

Dr. MOSHE W. ERHARD

there will be a graveside memorial service on Monday, December 27, 1976, at 3 p.m. at the Kiryat Shaul Cemetery.

The Family

Sincere sympathies to

Eva Weston

on the death of her husband

BERNARD WESTON

Management and Co-workers
Dead Sea Bromine Co. Ltd.

On the thirtieth day after the death of our dear

WALTER LESSER

a tombstone dedication and memorial service will take place on Sunday, December 26, 1976 at 11 a.m.

We will meet near the first gate at the Kfar Samir Cemetery, Haifa.

The Family

The unveiling of the tombstone of our beloved

MIRYAM ANNEMIE SHAY

will take place on Sunday, December 26 at 1 p.m. at the Givat Shaul cemetery, Jerusalem.

We shall meet at the entrance.

The Family

On the first anniversary of the death of my beloved husband

GREGORY (GRISHA) WEXLER

we will visit his grave at the Holon Cemetery. Meeting at 12.30 p.m. at the main gate, tomorrow, Friday, December 24, 1976.

Vera Wexler and Family



Children of Kibbutz HaGoshim visited soldiers on the northern border this week, bringing them jelly doughnuts for Hanukka, and being shown round the positions in return. Yesterday, a group of new recruits gave a Hanukka party for soldiers stationed on the Golan. (IIPA)

'Discussions' will disrupt radio schedule today

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Radio broadcasting on the First, Second and Third programmes may be disrupted in some parts of the country this morning. Communications Ministry broadcast engineers will hold "discussion meetings" to air the question of who shall represent them at negotiations with management — the Production Engineers Union or the Civil Servants Union.

Both are units of the Histadrut. The Ministry's engineers' works committee insists that the Production Engineers Union rather than the Civil Servants Union represent them at all "quadrilateral" negotiating meetings. (At present the four parties to the meetings are the Civil Service Commission, the Ministry, the works committee and the Civil Servants Union.)

Last night the Ministry appealed to Uriel Abrahamovitch, head of the Histadrut's trade union department, to settle the problem "so that the public will not have to suffer because of an intra-Histadrut fight for prestige."

Knesset seat: 18,000 votes

TEL AVIV — The number of votes necessary to win a Knesset seat has risen from 16,000 in the last elections to 18,000 today. This was stated on Tuesday by Interior Ministry Director-General Haim Kuberaky.

The estimate is based on 2,172,000 registered voters at present. Kuberaky added that the budget for next year included 110m. for holding a national election. (Itim)

Good year for hotels, but hard on small ones

By YITZHAK OKED

HAIFA — Israel hotels have had a good year and are recovering from the slump that followed the Yom Kippur War, an accountant, Dan Bawly, told a symposium on the hotel industry here Tuesday.

Bawly believed that hotels would increase their business by 10 per cent next year.

This year had also been a good one for hoteliers in Britain, Portugal and Greece. There had been a drop in tourism to Spain. Israel got 0.3 per cent of the world tourist trade.

Bawly said that the Ministry of Tourism target for 1985 is 1.7 million visitors a year, which he thought was very optimistic. Much work would have to be done to reach this target.

He told the meeting that 125 small hotels (in the one, two and three-star category) closed down in the year 1970-71. They had a capacity of 1,560 rooms. There were also about 100 other hotels up for sale.

A new 180-room hotel in Tel Aviv, in which 114m. had been invested, had been completed, but was not being opened because a number of new hotels in the high grades

were only 50 to 60 per cent full. This, despite the good tourist year. The president of the Israel Hotels Association, Haim Shiff, said that the idea of three million tourists a year in eight years' time was not far-fetched. These tourists could bring in \$2 billion. The groundwork had already been laid, but if this figure was to be achieved, hoteliers should be treated like other dollar-earning exporters instead of being punished with unreasonably high taxes.

Michael Federman, chairman of the economic committee of the Hotels Association and managing director of the Dan group, said in answer to a question that hoteliers had open borders with Israel had open borders with its neighbours he was against promoting low-price accommodation like camping sites and cheap hotels. "We should specialize in giving good-quality service in high standard hotels for the appropriate price."

"I know this might not sound popular, but when we have peace people can come from Europe to Israel by land with their trailer-caravan, and then we can change our concept."

(See Holiday Season page 6)

Ships officers want relief from taking charge of arms stores

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA — The Marine Officers Union has informed the security authorities that ship officers could no longer be responsible for the arms carried on Israeli merchant ships for protection against terrorist attacks.

The Union has asked the authorities for a meeting to review the issue and wants them to post special guards on all ships, who would also be responsible for the arms stores.

Union secretary Captain Yeshayahu Groman told The Jerusalem Post the officers now fear that "unreliable and even criminal" elements among the crews could not be trusted with the arms, and that

they might endanger the safety of the ships and men whom they are supposed to protect.

He noted that on the sea, there are several thousand tons of weapons broken up the arms stores and use the weapons. On another ship which had just returned to Haifa, the captain had kept the arms under lock and key, preferring to forego security against terrorists over endangering his men by allowing "certain seamen" access to the arms.

Captain Groman said that just as in El Al planes the crew were not charged with responsibility for safety, the security authorities should now take over the task on board the merchant ships.

Sabbath pole painting to be avoided

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Electric Corporation has been asked to avoid non-urgent work such as painting electric poles — on Saturdays and holidays, Haim Bar-Lev, Minister of Commerce and Industry told the Knesset yesterday.

He was replying to a parliamentary question from Yehuda Ben-Meir (NRP). He asked Bar-Lev, who holds Ministerial responsibility for the state-owned Electric Corporation, why power was cut off on a Saturday in October at the Mishal housing complex in Givatayim.

Ben-Meir said a previous shutdown was forestalled when religious resi-

dents protested that their electric food-warmers and Sabbath lighting devices would be put out of operation. A week later, however, power was cut off on Saturday, and Electric Corporation workers were seen painting the electric poles along the town's Rehov Yitzhak Sadah.

Bar-Lev explained that electric cable maintenance work was done on that Saturday because doing it on a weekday would have thrown traffic lights out of commission. As for the pole painting, the Minister said he had written to the corporation reminding it that work done on Jewish holidays and Saturdays must be limited to urgent jobs only.

Kibbutzim to dry out fish ponds

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA — Fish breeders in many of the 80 kibbutzim engaged in this branch of farming have embarked on a 120m. scheme to dry out 10,000 dozens of ponds by the end of 1977. The ponds comprise 20 per cent of the total pond area in the country.

The ponds will be used for more productive farming purposes, mainly cotton growing, the director of the Agriculture Ministry's Fish Culture Department, Shimon Tel, yesterday told The Jerusalem Post. The plan will save the country 20 million cubic metres of water annually, he said.

He stressed that the ponds would be dried out only in kibbutzim where the soil and water are good enough for regular farming. The reduction of pond area will not reduce fish production, because with modern methods of aeration and automatic feeding, the breeders could raise "an almost unlimited quantity" in fewer ponds.

He said that the Government will finance 40 per cent of the investment by development loans. It is forecast that the added income the kibbutzim will gain from growing cotton will raise their income tax payments, and the Government investment will be returned in extra taxes in about four years. The demand for pond fish, mostly carp, is steady at 14,000 tons a year.

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Accused spy fit to stand trial

TEL AVIV — District Court ruled yesterday that Yehonatan, the Dutch citizen indicted for spying against Israel, was fit to stand trial.

Miss Janssen was arrested March as she stepped down from plane at Ben-Gurion Airport. She was accused of misbehaving with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a terrorist group.

Her lawyer, Felicia Langer, charged that her client was not psychologically fit to stand trial. The court yesterday accepted the findings of a psychiatric examination which found Janssen fit. The trial will begin January 26. (Itim)

40 arrests in Kiryat Malachi

Police in Kiryat Malachi recently arrested close to 40 people, many of them members of a gang.

One gang specialized in stealing cars and selling the parts to gang owners. This gang is believed responsible for tossing two grenades in the town to settle accounts. The police campaign has resulted in the arrest of 40 people, including a confessed crime rate, dramatic increase in the holding of the southern district from two to five in the last month. Likewise, other criminal incidents dropped from two a day to two minor incidents in the last month. (Itim)

Court rejects State appeal on Abergil

Yakov Abergil, the brother of the Black Panther leader Reuben Abergil, will be freed next week after the Supreme Court Tuesday turned down the State's appeal on his freedom.

Reuben Abergil told him that against the 18-month sentence, he was sentenced for various crimes, including violence and for a protection order he ran in Jerusalem's Musrara quarter. The State claimed that Abergil was convicted of various crimes, but the Supreme Court was convinced that Abergil is trying to turn over a new leaf and should be encouraged in his efforts. (Itim)

Hanukka Jr. tennis meet

Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV — The "Masters Tour" event of the 17th annual Hanukka Junior Tennis Championships begins today at Ramat Hasharon's Isra Tennis Centre. Play starts at 10 a.m.

Competing in this unique tournament will be the finalists of the 1976 regional meets, which were held in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Be'er Sheva, and Netanya. The winners of the regional meets will advance to the final round of the tournament.

Until now, the Israel Tennis Association has always run the Hanukka championships on either regional-only or national-only basis, and such a grand finale marks the new departure in the local game. The weather has so far been the best ever experienced at this tournament mid-winter junior tennis event.

Correction

Yesterday's report on Israel's position B said that "they (Amir) Shivan, Director-General of the Planning Ministry and Avner Caspi, believe for the legal advisor..." assumed the financial responsibility for the sixth (Vaduz-based) company, which was named "Vaduz" (controlled) by Tel-Aviv contractor Aharon Rubinstein, board chairman of the corporation who is presently under police investigation on the allegations.

Shivan and Caspi made no statement and did not even appear at such a possibility. The two are no comment or reference to Rubinstein when they attended the Knesset Finance Committee meeting in Israel Corporation B.

THE OLDEST Hebrew school in Israel, and possibly in the world, celebrated its 90th birthday yesterday. The Haviv School was founded in 1886 in Rishon LeZion. The Ministry of Education marked the event with a conference on education in the 1980s.

SWISS DEPORT MENTEN

(Continued from page one)

lands, placed the Swiss government into a legal quandary.

Formal extradition of Menten was barred under the Swiss statute of limitations on the prosecution of crimes dating back more than 20 years. But a 1968 government decree allows the expulsion from Swiss territory of people convicted or under strong suspicion of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

It was the first time in Swiss history that this decree was invoked. There was bound to be criticism in Swiss legal circles, since expulsion in Switzerland usually has meant transferring the suspect to a country of his free choice.

(AP, Reuters)

Aaron Sittner adds from the Knesset: Earlier in the day, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon told the Knesset it was official Government policy to aid in all efforts, anywhere in

the world, to bring Nazi war criminals to justice.

He said Israel had "cooperated closely" with the Dutch authorities, by taking testimony here from Holocaust survivors. This testimony, Allon said, aided in the preparation of the charges against Menten.

Allon said: "About 10 years ago, Israel signed a pact with several European nations, pledging mutual cooperation in criminal investigation matters. Thus, we helped in the apprehension and indictment of Nazi criminal Johannes Loeven in Holland."

Foreign Minister Allon was replying to an urgent motion for the agenda by Hillel Seidel of the ILP, himself a survivor of the Nazi Holocaust.

ELECTIONS

(Continued from page one)

his bill first, because it was tax first.

Practical considerations dictate a general schedule of the election legislation. Civil servants who are to stand for the Knesset have to resign 100 days before the election.

Another month may be needed to get the law through the Knesset. It is not clear when they attended the Knesset Finance Committee meeting in Israel Corporation B.

A date after May would not be advisable either, according to senior Alignment sources, because the usual election abroad for the day. In any case, industrial and economic interests are putting pressure on the Alignment to move the election over with so it is an anti-inflationary measure can be imposed. There are no are felt to be urgent now, but the government does not intend to them for fear of angering the vote. The Alignment sources said.

GB stifles Jewish symposium

Most of the organizers of the symposium were kept under surveillance by British security forces, according to sources. The symposium was held in a hotel in London, and the organizers were not allowed to speak to the press. The symposium was held in a hotel in London, and the organizers were not allowed to speak to the press. The symposium was held in a hotel in London, and the organizers were not allowed to speak to the press.

Idiarity meetings round the world

UDY SIEGEL, a Jewish activist, for 18 years on Tuesday and yesterday, sources said. Siegel wasn't one of the symposium organizers. "I think they (the police) might be using the symposium as a pretext for a widespread crackdown," said activist Anatoly Shchuravsky. Since the organizers were being held under house arrest, no attempt was made to resume the symposium yesterday, Jewish sources said. The sources said that although full details of the police action had not yet been collected, at least 10 members of the symposium's organizing committee, including its chairman, Benjamin Fain, were now under house arrest. The sources said plainclothes agents were waiting in cars outside the houses of the men and were preventing them from leaving home. Another source said the deputy

chairman of the organizing committee, Leonid Volnovsky, was taken in for questioning yesterday at the public prosecutor's office. Other sources said later that two Jews who went to see Siegel yesterday morning, Anatoly Shchuravsky and Ulye Taitelbaum, were later picked up by police and taken for questioning. Both were released later. Police gave as the reason the fact that their places of work were not marked on their internal passports. Both men are out of work after applying to emigrate to Israel, but neither was an organizer or speaker at the symposium. At Tuesday's meeting seven out of an original 54 papers were read out after only two of about 40 scheduled Soviet Jewish speakers managed to arrive. (Reuter, AP)

A group of protesters against the Soviet actions met in Vail, Colorado yesterday, where President Gerald Ford was spending his Christmas vacation. Ford had been invited to the session but did not respond. "We are speaking out against assimilation," said Lillian Hoffman of Denver. "We are saying to the Soviets: Jews have a right to their religion and culture and not to be assimilated." British Jews demonstrated outside the Soviet Embassy in London to protest the arrests and harassment in Moscow. In Liverpool, women clung in black, accompanied by their children, released hundreds of white balloons bearing the words "Free Soviet Jews."

55% of Russians drop out in '76

TEL AVIV. — Fifty five per cent of Russian Jews who left the USSR on Israeli visas dropped out along the way in 1976. This was one of the statistics presented to agricultural students in Rehovot by WSO chairman Yosef Almog yesterday. The total number of immigrants in 1976 was 20,000, among them 8,000 from the USSR. This qualified the immigration in 1976, Almog said.

Who's eligible for student stipends

Jerusalem Post Reporter Only students who have done military service and do at least 15 days of reserve duty annually or, as an alternative to reserve duty, work for communal institutions or are doing some form of communal volunteer work will be eligible for the IL700 stipends to be given this year by the National Students Federation. This was announced this week by the N.S.F. The granting of the stipend was decided upon when the N.S.F. the Minister of Education, and the heads of six of Israel's universities on October 29 signed an agreement raising the tuition fee to IL4,933. The Technion Students Union is not party to the agreement. All full-time or part-time students will be eligible, except those who already benefit from a stipend, who are exempt from tuition fees, or whose study is subsidized by a public institution. Other criteria will be: gross income of the parents of students living at home; gross income of self-supporting students; special preference for students from development towns. There is now IL18,000 in the stipend fund, which means that only 28,000 of the country's 50,000 students will be able to receive stipends this year. Starting next week, students seeking a stipend can apply to the students of their university.

Police save children from burning flat in Dimona. The children's mother had forgotten to remove a frying pan full of oil from the gas range before leaving the flat with her children inside. When she came back she found the flat in flames. She phoned the police who rushed to the scene. The mother told the police five children were locked in the flat and fainting. Inspector David Sadeh, deputy commander of the Dimona police station, broke into the flat with other policemen and rescued the four children—none of them hurt.

Police save children from burning flat

Jerusalem Post Reporter TUESDAY saved the lives of four children who were locked in a burning flat in Dimona. The children's mother had forgotten to remove a frying pan full of oil from the gas range before leaving the flat with her children inside. When she came back she found the flat in flames. She phoned the police who rushed to the scene. The mother told the police five children were locked in the flat and fainting. Inspector David Sadeh, deputy commander of the Dimona police station, broke into the flat with other policemen and rescued the four children—none of them hurt.

Subsidies paid on over-quota production Egg and Poultry Board scored

In mid-1975, after inspecting the board's affairs, the State Comptroller submitted to the Agriculture Ministry a list of 270 "quota owners" (quotas, like taxi licences, are owned and treated like property) — who did not produce at all, or produced less than half their quota for the previous three years. He suggested cancelling these quotas or "freezing them" — but nothing was done until August 1976, when the board and the Agriculture Ministry informed the State Comptroller that procedures had been approved to enable the board to cancel quotas.

State Comptroller's Report

(Yesterday, in reaction to the report, the board stated that the new regulations can only go into effect as of April 1977, but that all the preparations have been made to implement them.) Government control of the price of eggs — Israelis are, per capita, the biggest egg consumers in the world — has meant paying subsidies to producers. Overproduction, under this system, means a great waste of money paid out for un-

U.S. Professor Edward Alexander and his wife Leah arriving in London on Tuesday after being refused entry into Russia. The Alexanders had intended spending a brief holiday visiting Jewish friends when they were held for 24 hours at Moscow Airport. The professor said that he had not been invited to the Jewish symposium, but he had intended to contact a few of the organizers "as a gesture of moral support." (AP radiophoto)

Four Defence Ministry men guilty of taking bribes

TEL AVIV. — Four former employees of the Defence Ministry's transport and maintenance department were yesterday found guilty of taking bribes from transport contractors. Sentences will be passed at a later date by the Tel Aviv District Court. The four are: Yitzhak Rubin, 40, of Ramatana, former director of the transport section in the Defence Ministry department; Yisrael Rosenzweig, 33, of Holon, former head of the department's maintenance unit; Gavriel Kol-Namer, 42, of Bat Yam, formerly of the transport section; and Eliyahu Cohen, 31, also of Bat Yam, who worked in the accounts department. A fifth man who was accused on the same charges, Ya'acov Yisraeli, 63, of Tel Aviv, was acquitted.

All four men denied the bribery charges but admitted that they had on occasion received gifts from transport contractors who they claimed, were their personal friends. Only in the case of Ya'acov Yisraeli did Judge Dov Levin accept the claim of personal friendship as a valid excuse for the presents. Yitzhak Rubin was found guilty of accepting two loans of IL10,000 each from Defence Ministry contractors. The court also held that the reduced prices he had paid for his children at Egged summer camps

Bethlehem ready for Christmas; Jews are asked to stay away

Jerusalem Post Reporter Tourism Minister Moshe Kol yesterday appealed to Israeli Jews to stay away from Bethlehem on Christmas. He noted that thousands of visitors would be visiting the town. Many of them have come from overseas for the holiday. Give them a chance to enjoy it, he said. Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij expects over 20,000 visitors to pass through the town on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. Bethlehem has been specially cleaned up and decorated for the holiday. Because Christmas falls on Saturday this year, Israeli dignitaries will not attend the Christmas ceremonies. Usually the procession and service is attended by high ranking police and army officials, as well as the mayor of Jerusalem.

Yitzhak Raphael, M.K., former Minister of Religious Affairs, complained of reported plans by Egged to run shuttle buses between Jerusalem and Bethlehem and appealed to the Tourism and Transport Ministers to veto this. Both ministers replied that they would do all they could to prevent any desecration of the Sabbath. Agudat Israel's Avraham Werdiger, meanwhile, asked for an urgent Knesset debate on Egged's plan. In Jerusalem the 300 Christmas trees distributed gratis by the municipality yesterday proved to be insufficient. A municipal official said that there had been greater demand for trees than in previous years. Since the trees are provided by the Jewish National Fund — and the municipality only distributes them, he could offer no help to those who were disappointed. There was a risk, yesterday, that the Mass in Bethlehem on Christmas Eve would not be televised live this year, because the cameramen have been refusing to work in the West Bank, for the past week. They have claimed that the Broadcasting Authority would have to take out a personal risk insurance of IL250,000 for each of them. But the problem was soon solved by an announcement from the general manager of the authority that such insurance would be arranged. In Jerusalem, Mayor Teddy Kollek yesterday gave his traditional end of the year reception, at the Municipal chambers. Hundreds of Jewish, Moslem and Christian guests attended, in one of the largest such crowds since the Six Day War. The guests included church leaders, diplomats, mukhtars and other Arab leaders from East Jerusalem. (See Holiday Season, page 6)

Baha'i celebrate holiest days

Jerusalem Post Reporter HAIFA. — The Baha'i community will celebrate two holy days, the birthdays of the founders of the faith, the Bab and Baha'ullah, today and tomorrow respectively. They are the holiest days in the calendar of the faith. The Bab was born in Shiraz, Iran, as Mirza Ali Muhammad in 1819, and at an early age started preaching the coming of a new religion — a continuation of the existing faiths which would unify mankind. He called himself Bab al Din (Gate of the Faithful) and heralded the

eminent appearance of a man who would found the new faith. The authorities considered his preaching a heresy. He was imprisoned and was executed by a firing squad in Tabriz in 1850. Baha'ullah, (Glory of God) was born a Persian nobleman, Mirza Husayn Ali, and in 1863 proclaimed that he was the universal prophet whose coming the Bab had foretold. He, too, was declared a heretic and spent most of his life in exile and in prison. He was brought to Acre in 1868 and died in prison there in 1892. He is buried in Acre and the Bab in Haifa.

ed on the basis of bids from the licensed merchants, have been sold at prices that have nothing to do with the supply and demand, but were based on arbitrary reserve prices set by someone in the board. The tenders and bids were handled so haphazardly that dealers could call in their bid by telephone to the board's telephone operators — after getting information about the reserve price. The board, according to its own statement, has accepted most of the criticism expressed by the State Comptroller, and has taken a series of steps to correct the shortcomings. It remains to be seen whether the board's 50 members (eight of whom are Government representatives) will meet more often than the total of seven times they met in 1971-75; whether the Government representatives will show up at board meetings; or those of its executive (to date their presence has been rare); and whether the board will succeed any better in its tasks of regulating egg and poultry production than it has to date.

Eggs and poultry constitute the largest agriculture branch in the country, with a value of IL2 billion in 1974/75, or 23 per cent of all agricultural products. There are 13,000 growers in more than 700 settlements engaged in this branch.

BACKGROUND REPORT SARAH HONIG

Most mayors oppose early elections

TEL AVIV. — The possibility that early local elections may be called has caught most of the country's mayors "entirely unprepared," the mayor of one large city told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

While the central bodies of many parties are already in high gear for the Knesset elections, their local branches are in a state of flux. In many cities the incumbents have not yet decided whether to seek re-election, residence qualifications for voting may have to be altered in a short period of time, and, above all, there are a host of technical problems arising from the fact that for the first time the electorate will select mayors and local council heads on a personal basis.

It is not clear, for example, whether the name of the candidate for mayor should head the city council list as well. There is also the problem that voters will have to cast two ballots in the local elections alone — one for mayor and one for the city council — and it is feared that many will be unable to tell them apart. Ways will have to be devised to differentiate between the two.

While most municipal politicians are passively awaiting a Knesset decision on whether the local elections will be held together with the Knesset elections, sentiment in the corridors of the Union of Local Authorities is almost overwhelmingly against early elections.

Apart from practical considerations of unpreparedness, issues of principle are also involved. Many mayors argue that to compel them to go to the polls sooner would be adding insult to injury, given the already disharmonious relations between local and central government. According to the mayors, the cities are relegated to a back seat, are steadily losing their vestiges of independence, and are rarely consulted even on matters directly involving them. Most mayors see this as an excellent opportunity to draw a clear distinction, once and for all, between the country's internal problems and foreign and security issues.

Tel Aviv's Mayor Shlomo Lahat, on the other hand, argues that the date for local elections "involves no questions of principle at all. If it turns out that scheduling national and municipal elections on the same day saves the country money, then I am all in favour of that." He feels that there is "plenty of time" till next spring for the party branches to get organized. Many labour incumbents, however, admit of the record that they fear that they will find themselves having to defend and possibly even pay for

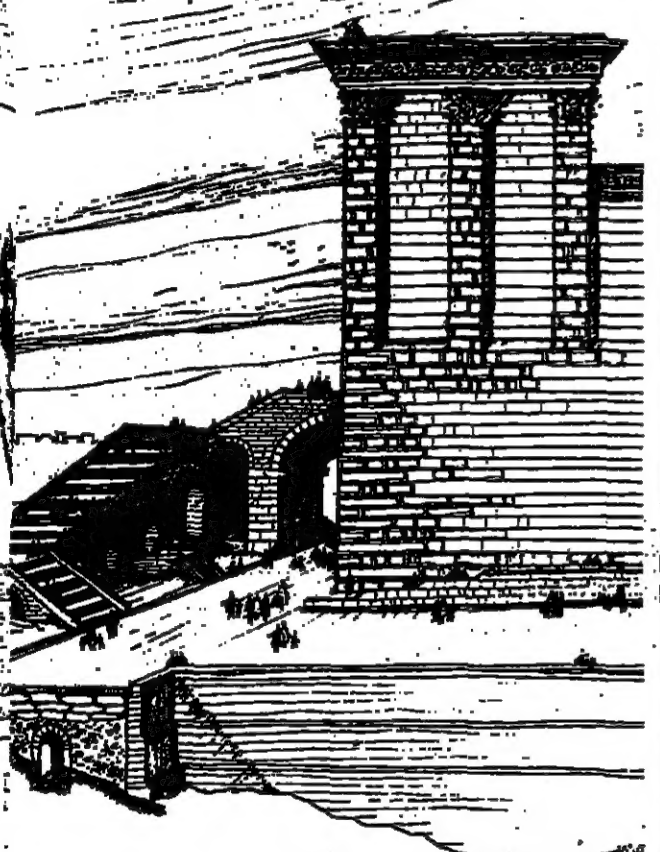
the Government's shortcomings. In cities where the Labour is in the opposition, there is also a reluctance to have early local elections, since in most municipalities the Alignment finds itself without candidates. If the Knesset and local campaigns are conducted simultaneously, prominent public figures and potential vote-getters will be attracted to vote for the more glittering prizes of national politics or will be enlisted to ball out the party in the central race. Thus local lists might not get top-notch names.

At the same time, since mayors will be elected on a personal basis and it will no longer be possible to unseat a mayor by coalition deals, it is expected that academics and businessmen from outside the traditional party frameworks may be attracted to municipal politics. Many might run on independent lists. An additional incentive, as far as small localities are concerned, is the recent hike in mayors' pay. New faces may also appear on the local scene for a very different reason: A good many of the country's mayors have been occupying the same post for years and are simply getting older. The demands of the new style of campaigning that personal elections will necessitate may be too much for some of them. Their physical stamina will become a highly important factor in their decision on whether to run for re-election.

Early municipal elections are almost certain to be to the advantage of such strong mayors as Lahat and Yerahim Zeisel vis-a-vis his party is far more shaky. Ramat Gan's Mayor Yisrael Feled is said to be in a powerful position in the country's fourth largest city, with hardly any enemies. The dean of Israeli mayors, Holon's Pinhas Bylton, was to have stepped down at the end of his current term of office, but early elections make this doubtful for lack of a suitable replacement. In view of recent hints of scandal and mismanagement in Givatayim, it is felt that Mayor Kuba Kreizman will have an uphill fight to get Labour's nomination for yet another term. (See Editorial—page 18)

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Interior of staircase leading down from "Robinson's" Jerusalem's Second Temple period.

Enthusiasm for plan to build Robinson's Arch

AN RABINOVICH, a Post Reporter, is overseeing archaeological excavations in Jerusalem as part of a plan to build Robinson's Arch. The plan is to build a massive L-shaped staircase leading from a gate in the Temple Mount to a Herodian street below. The plan is to build a massive L-shaped staircase leading from a gate in the Temple Mount to a Herodian street below. The plan is to build a massive L-shaped staircase leading from a gate in the Temple Mount to a Herodian street below.

BOHAI KRANN

Post Reporter Poultry Board was scathing criticism Comptroller in a re-statement. The pictures from the re-statement is an uncomfortable regulatory since individual far their egg production such as 50 per cent, majority of these went through the regulatory measures, cases farmers were used for producing eggs. because other farmers ice their full quota was not stuck with egg surplus. But this credit of the board, for the various he Agriculture Ministry some degree the Commerce and stry, are also to re-ministries are re-board, which deals assigned to egg, produced in 1960, based on marketed in 1959 — not been changed

Democratic hawks' opposition diminishes

New Pentagon chief mum on B-1

The Los Angeles Times
WASHINGTON. — Although the new administration is not scheduled to decide until next June if it will authorize the \$22,800m. B-1 bomber project, President-elect Jimmy Carter's choice to run the Pentagon expressed support for the proposal as recently as seven months ago.

In a letter to Sen. William Proxmire (Democrat, Wis.) last May 20, Defense Secretary-designate Harold Brown said the B-1 was a complex issue, but supporters of the plane "have the best of the argument in terms of accuracy, clarity of assumptions and defensibility of conclusions."

Brown's letter to Proxmire indicated he had changed his position very little in the decade since he advocated development of a new manned bomber during his tenure as Air Force Secretary in the administration of the late former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

As Air Force Secretary from 1965 through 1969, Brown said the U.S. needed an aircraft to replace the aging B-52s. That proposal, then known as the advanced manned strategic aircraft, has evolved into the B-1.

At a news conference on Tuesday in Plains, after Carter named the California Institute of Technology president to be his Defense Secretary, Brown said it would be premature for him to reveal his recommendation on the B-1, though he said he had discussed the matter with Carter.

Early in his campaign for the presidency, Carter was critical of the B-1, and implied that he would cancel the project. But he later modified that position and said recently he had reached no conclusions on the super-sonic bomber.

The Ford administration earlier this month approved a start on production of the aircraft on an \$87m. a month contract that expires on June 30. Before that date, Carter and his new Pentagon team must decide if they want to go ahead with construction of the 244 planes the Air Force wants to buy.



President-elect Jimmy Carter Tuesday named Patricia Roberts Harris, left, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Harold Brown Secretary of Defense in his new cabinet.

at a currently estimated cost of \$938m. each.

Much of the opposition to Brown, which apparently held up announcement of his appointment for several days, is believed to be dissipating.

A spokesman for Sen. Henry Jackson (Democrat, Wash.) said Jackson never actively opposed Brown. The spokesman discounted published reports which had said

First Jew in new Cabinet

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — Harold Brown, who was named the next Defense Secretary on Tuesday by President-elect Jimmy Carter, becomes the first Jew to win a Cabinet-level appointment in the new administration.

Michael Blumenthal, named last week to become Treasury Secretary, and James Schlesinger, who is expected to be named later this week to a new Cabinet-level position as energy czar, were both born Jewish but later converted to Christianity.



President-elect Jimmy Carter Tuesday named Patricia Roberts Harris, left, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Harold Brown Secretary of Defense in his new cabinet.

Jackson considered Brown to be too ready to strike a bargain with the Soviet Union.

A source at the AFM-CDO said the labour federation also was prepared to accept Brown.

"Carter asked for our best recommendation and that was (former Defense Secretary) James Schlesinger," the source said. "We thought Brown was a good technician. We thought Schlesinger was a better policy man."

But the source added, "Anybody who thinks Brown is a dove hasn't looked at his record as far force secretary."

Asked to respond to press allegations that he had urged expanded bombing of North Vietnam during the government-wide policy reviews that followed the Tet offensive of March, 1968, Brown replied that he had, in fact, disagreed with his air staff on bombing strategy.

Referring to a March, 1968, memo which is quoted in part in the Pentagon Papers, Brown told the news conference in Plains that he had transmitted three staff proposals for continued bombing, but noted in a cover letter that he "disagreed both on the expected effectiveness and desirability of each of these alternatives."

Carter A-G criticized on rights record

PLAINS. — The first serious controversy about an appointment by President-elect Jimmy Carter has erupted over the civil rights record of Griffin Bell, the federal judge Carter has named as his attorney general.

Despite frequent declarations of faith in Bell's record, Carter has been unable to still critics of Bell's judicial opinions in racial integration cases and on his membership in private clubs that exclude Blacks and Jews.

Black leaders, including some influential Black members of Congress, have criticized Bell's record on housing cases, and other school integration rulings while he sat on the federal bench.

Yesterday, the Black British Anti-Discrimination League said that it was "most troubled" to learn that Bell is a member of the Piedmont Driving Club and the Capital City Club, both of which do not accept Jews or Blacks as members.

Through a spokesman, Bell acknowledged that he belonged to the clubs, which he said accepted Blacks and Jews to use the club facilities as guests of members.

Bell told the "New York Times" yesterday that because as attorney general he would be committed to equal justice under the law, he would have to do something about his membership in the private clubs.

Bell is expected to face an intense grilling on his record at his confirmation hearings before members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, some of whom say they support Bell and some who say they are reserving judgement.

Rhodesia seeks 'peace talks' with Botswana

SALISBURY. — Rhodesia is reportedly seeking "peace talks" with neighbouring Botswana — a country without an army — which is being drawn into the expanding war between Rhodesia and Black Nationalist guerrillas.

During the past month, there has been an increase in incidents along the 700-km. long border between the two countries since Rhodesia opened a new operation against guerrillas in the southwestern part of the country.

Botswana, with a police force of 500 men, is protesting that Rhodesian security forces are violating its territorial integrity.

Rhodesia's white-ruled government denied on Monday a report that Rhodesian troops clashed on the border with Botswana police last Saturday. The denial also followed charges from Botswana that Rhodesian troops had fired on a police camp in the northern Botswana town

of Francistown, close to the Rhodesian border.

A Rhodesian government statement on Tuesday referred to its western neighbour as being a base for guerrilla offensives. But it emphasized that despite increasing anxiety about the use of Botswana as a staging area, Rhodesian security forces had taken great pains to avoid violating the former British protectorate's territory.

The statement from Foreign Affairs Minister Pieter van der Byl's department, said it was increasingly important to reduce tensions so as to prevent a confrontation, and offered to begin talks on the deteriorating situation.

Meanwhile, Black Rhodesian Nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo has called for an international probe into Sunday's massacre of 27 black tea plantation workers in eastern Rhodesia near the Mozambique border. Survivors of the slaying have said the killers were black guerrillas armed with Communist-type weapons, but Nkomo, leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), claimed they were "mercenaries seeking to justify their employment" — an apparent reference to foreign recruits in the armed forces.

U.S. payments gap increases

WASHINGTON. — A key yardstick of America's international payments position registered the biggest deficit in two years for the full quarter, the U.S. Government announced yesterday.

The Commerce Department said the U.S. current account showed a deficit of \$1,068. for the three-month period ended in September. That compared to a surplus of \$816m. in the previous quarter and was the biggest deficit since the \$1,458. in the third quarter of 1974.

Oil journal anticipates 'free-for-all' in Opec

NICOSIA, Cyprus. — The oil cartel's pricing dispute has deeply split its membership and created a "free-for-all" crude market, the "Middle East Economic Survey" reported yesterday.

"In other words, this promises to be a bruising trial of strength in which injuries will be sustained before an Opec-wide reconciliation can be effected," the journal said.

The weekly newsletter was commenting on a decision last week by 11 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to raise prices by 15 per cent in two stages next year.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, the other members of the 13-nation cartel, refused to go along and held to a 5 per cent rise. They threatened to flood the market with



ON THE REBOUND — Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who is also paymaster of the State Department, is expected to be an honorary member of the team. Kissinger, who is also paymaster of the State Department, is expected to be an honorary member of the team. Kissinger, who is also paymaster of the State Department, is expected to be an honorary member of the team.

'Remarkable evolution' on attitude to Israel, PLO spokesman claims

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — A representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization last month told a closed-door meeting of the prestigious Council on Foreign Relations in New York that the Middle East was currently witnessing "an historic turning point that should be seized."

Dr. Issa Sartawi, the PLO official, also maintained that the PLO attitude on peace and on Israel had "evolved remarkably" since 1967, from total rejection through the idea of a unitary secular state of Palestine to cognizance of the fact of Israel's existence and the desira-

bility of peace based on two separate state structures.

But Sartawi, who along with another PLO official had also met last month with small groups of American Jews in New York and Washington, refused to acknowledge Israel's right to exist at this time.

According to a memorandum of the meeting circulated by the Council of Foreign Relations, a copy of which was made available to The Jerusalem Post, Sartawi said: "Recognition comes at the end of the process of negotiating peace, not before it starts. We cannot give up our best bargaining card at the start."

Sartawi said that Palestinians "know that the reality of the situa-

tion requires a peace between separate Arab and Jewish nations in Palestine."

(The Council on Foreign Relations is a prestigious body of professors and foreign policy experts in the U.S. Defence Minister Shimon Peres addressed the group on his recent visit to the U.S., and he met there with Secretary of State-designate Cyrus Vance, who is a member.)

He argued that PLO officials were willing to talk to Israel. "The obstacles are on the Israeli side. Witness the outcry in Israel against the Israeli doves who talked to us in Paris," he said, referring to a recent meeting between PLO representatives and a small delegation of Israeli left-wing politicians, journalists and academics.

"The U.S. government can play a constructive role in bringing Israel and the PLO together," the memorandum had Sartawi saying. "We need a push from the outside." But the Geneva Middle East peace conference did not appear to be the ideal place to work out a peace. Preliminary diplomatic work is necessary, including talks between the U.S. and the USSR.

The memorandum also quoted Sartawi as making these points:

● The PLO speaks for 90 per cent of the Palestinians. George Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the other rejectionists do not count. "We could crush them in 45 minutes. As we crushed (the Syrian-backed) Sa'eda," in Lebanon, he boasted.

● The PLO cannot accept Resolution 242 as a basis for peace because it does not recognize the Palestinians as a people, but as refugees.

● The Allon plan is totally unacceptable. But agreement on borders, with balancing mutual concessions should be possible. Despite the tremendous difficulties of the Jerusalem problem a settlement there too should not be impossible. "Two nations can have their capital there," he said.



Waves crash against the bow section of the Liberian tanker Argo Merchant yesterday. The tanker broke up, losing a massive oil slick into the Atlantic off the Massachusetts coast.

Mammoth oil spill perils Cape Cod beach, fisheries

NANTUCKET, Massachusetts. — Heavy winter seas yesterday threatened U.S. Coast Guard efforts to sink the front half of an oil tanker that broke apart, unleashing one of history's worst oil spills.

Officials watched helplessly the spreading of the oil slick. One report said some of it had reached north-eastward to the Georges Bank commercial fishing grounds of Newfoundland.

The break-up Tuesday of the 640-foot tanker Argo Merchant spewed 75 per cent of its 7.5m. gallons of heavy industrial crude oil into a slick 75 miles long and more than 25 miles wide at its broadest point.

"This is the biggest oil spill disaster on the American coast in our history," said Russell Train, head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The aged, rusting vessel, called a "suspect ship" by the Coast Guard because of 19 previous mishaps, piled onto the Middle Rip Shoals 40 kms. south-east of this island resort a week ago. It was 15 kms. off course when it hit.

The Liberian-registered vessel was on its way from Venezuela to Salem, Massachusetts. An investigation showed the ship's master wasn't using all the navigating equipment available to him, and that the ship wasn't kept in repair.

Marxists lead in Mauritius vote

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius. — A new Marxist Party triumphed yesterday in the first general elections held in Mauritius since the Indian Ocean Island won independence from Britain in 1968.

With 59 of the 62 parliamentary seats declared, the Mauritius Militant Movement (MMM) had outdistanced all other parties with 28 seats — only three short of an

absolute majority. The MMM, had campaigned on a programme of left-wing measures, including nationalization and redistribution of wealth.

Prime Minister Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam was re-elected in his own constituency, but his ruling coalition of the Labour Party and the Muslim Action Committee (CAM) took a beating at 28 polls.

Waldheim likely to visit M.E. late next month

UNITED NATIONS. — UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim will probably visit the Middle East on a peace mission towards the end of January, according to the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, William Scranton.

Waldheim recently received an invitation to visit Egypt at part of his tour of the Middle East, which is aimed at recovering the 1973 Middle East peace conference in Geneva.

A UN spokesman on Tuesday night said no date had yet been set for such a trip. But Scranton said at a press conference that "it's my understanding that he (Waldheim) plans to take this trip... probably toward the end of January some time."

Waldheim has already held preliminary talks with representatives of all the parties to the Middle East dispute, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), as

well as the two co-chairmen at the Geneva talks, the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Waldheim conferred on Tuesday with Syrian Ambassador, Mowaffiq al-Matrawi, and then with the PLO's chief spokesman, Yassir Arafat. He also met with the UN Secretary-General, Kurt Waldheim, and the UN Secretary-General, Kurt Waldheim, and the UN Secretary-General, Kurt Waldheim.

Syria cast the only negative vote on Tuesday when the General Assembly's budgetary committee approved appropriations of more than \$80m. for two UN peace-keeping forces in the Middle East.

Some \$78m. is to go for the UN Truce Supervision Force (UNTSF), serving as a buffer between the Egyptian and Israeli forces, and the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights for the year beginning last June 1.

Hijacker surrenders after slashing one hostage

SAN FRANCISCO. — A disgruntled airline mechanic surrendered early yesterday morning after holding two persons hostage aboard a commandeered DC8 jetliner for almost 15 hours, authorities said.

Palm J. Hinnant, 37, was quietly removed from the plane and taken into custody by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

One of the hostages, Richard Funk, was rushed to Peninsula Hospital. The 58-year-old United Airlines shop manager earlier told authorities over the airplane radio that Hinnant had slashed him several times after forcing the two

hostages to board the empty airliner.

The other hostage, United Airlines mechanic Jerry Dusenberry, 42, had been released unharmed about an hour earlier when two of Hinnant's friends boarded the aircraft. The two friends, Lincoln Jones and Clarence Hamlet, also left the plane and police swarmed aboard to check it.

The drama began when Hinnant forced his captives aboard the empty aircraft at gunpoint, according to officials, and began issuing a series of demands, including fuel, food, clothing, brandy, and the flight crew.

Boxer Carter found guilty again

PATERSON, New Jersey. — Black boxer Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, once a contender for the world mid-weight title, was convicted on Tuesday night, a second time for the murders of three people in a bar here in 1966.

Carter, 39, and his co-defendant, John Artis, were sent back to prison after being released on bail last March. They had served nine years for the murders.

After a massive public campaign,

the New Jersey State Supreme Court ordered a retrial of the two men on the grounds that the prosecution withheld evidence that could have helped the defence in their first trial.

But after a six-week hearing with 75 witnesses, a jury found Carter and Artis guilty of the murders of the three men during racial disturbances in Paterson in 1966. The jury deliberated over nine hours before returning the verdict.

(Reuters)

Ugandan officer confirms Bloch killing details Capital crime to joke about Entebbe

By DAVID LAMB
The Los Angeles Times

ENTEBBE. — Reports that Dora Bloch, the 75-year-old hostage who disappeared during the Israeli raid on Entebbe Airport, was snatched from her hospital room and strangled by Ugandan secret police, were confirmed by a highly placed military officer here Tuesday.

Her body then was taken to Namanve Forest, a common dumping ground for victims of official brutality, splashed with gasoline and burned beyond recognition. In the ensuing months at least 20 Ugandans with knowledge of her death have been executed, including the Information Ministry's chief photographer, the source said.

His report confirmed what had been common knowledge in Uganda for some time — that Mrs. Bloch, who held both British and Israeli passports, was killed as a final act of revenge against Israel by the regime of President-for-life Idi Amin. The report, however, provided the first complete details of her death and of the presidential decrees following the raid.

Since the July 4 raid, Amin has made it a capital offence to joke about or possess literature on the attack. At least two bar girls are known to have been killed after joking that their boyfriends were as aggressive as Israeli jets. All foreign publications, such as weekly news-magazines, are confiscated from travellers passing through customs at Entebbe, and anyone mentioning the name of Dora Bloch is subject to immediate imprisonment. Mrs. Bloch's body was found in the forest. He rushed out and took photographs. But the same acquaintance who

months. He forbade his officers to wear any Israeli military medals although he still wears his Israeli paratrooper wings. He demanded the equivalent of \$7,500 to remain silent. He said he would pay when he could raise the money.

Farmer, who had been suspected by Ugandan authorities of supplying Western news organizations with tips and photographs, returned to Kampala in his car. The film was confiscated — it was later destroyed, the source said — and three soldiers in civilian attire forced him into the trunk of his car. He, too, was strangled. His body was dumped near that of Mrs. Bloch.

tipster Farmer also alerted military intelligence officers that the photographer was at the gravesite. The officers arrived and demanded the equivalent of \$7,500 to remain silent. He said he would pay when he could raise the money.

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Bayern beats Brazilians for cup

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil. — Bayern Munich of West Germany won the Intercontinental Club Soccer Cup here Tuesday night by holding Cruzeiro of Brazil to a goalless draw in the second leg of the final.

Bayern, holders of the European Champions Cup, had a 2-0 lead over the South American champions from last month's first leg in Munich.

The Brazilians, led in attack by Ronaldo, who requires well-vain to break down a resolute Bayern defence in which goalkeepers Sepp Maier was outstanding.

A crowd of 114,000 watched the match. (Bayern is due in Israel next month to play a friendly match against Tel Aviv Maccabi.) (Reuters)

England tops India in cricket test

NEW DELHI. — The formality of an "second" innings. England defeat in the first cricket Test by England was completed in 30 minutes play yesterday when India crashed to 234 all out in their

and 234. England's first innings was 381, India's 234.



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HOLIDAY SEASON

Rent-a-camel in Eilat

By SHAMI LESTER
Special to The Jerusalem Post

"There's nothing to do here," was for years a regular complaint from tourists to Eilat.

This year Ya'Alat Tourist Services, Eilat's largest and oldest tour operating company, headed by Samuel Muki, Meltzer, a veteran Eilat with crazy ideas, took the challenge of the charters very seriously. From the one-day tour to Eilat, with which the company started some 17 years ago, it now offers excursions to Jerusalem, Sinai, the Arava kibbutzim as well as half-day boat tours to Coral Island, full-day cruise and picnic tours, self-drive car hire, bikes for rent and horse riding. Its latest addition are the camel tours which started last week.

Muki believes in giving the tourists what they want. So when he was told, repeatedly, that Scandinavians like to cycle, he persuaded another Eilat to open a rent-a-bike store. At first, everyone laughed. But throughout the winter you can now see fair-haired cyclists heading southwards to seek private beaches.

The fact that the sea was not being exploited brought another couple of Eilat's to Muki, and together they bought a 50-seat pleasure cruiser that used to ply the Bay of Haifa, brought it to Eilat, refurbished it into a sleek and comfortable vessel which piles the waters of the Red Sea twice a day to the Coral Island, twice a week to the lovely cove of El-Hamra (just south of the fjord and almost inaccessible by road) and three times a week by moonlight for romantic night cruises. Named the Dolphin, it has a sister ship, the Tammuz, currently undergoing a similar facelift before going into service too. At the same time, the first of Ya'Alat's six Eilat-built glass-bottomed boats is already making tours around the Coral Island.

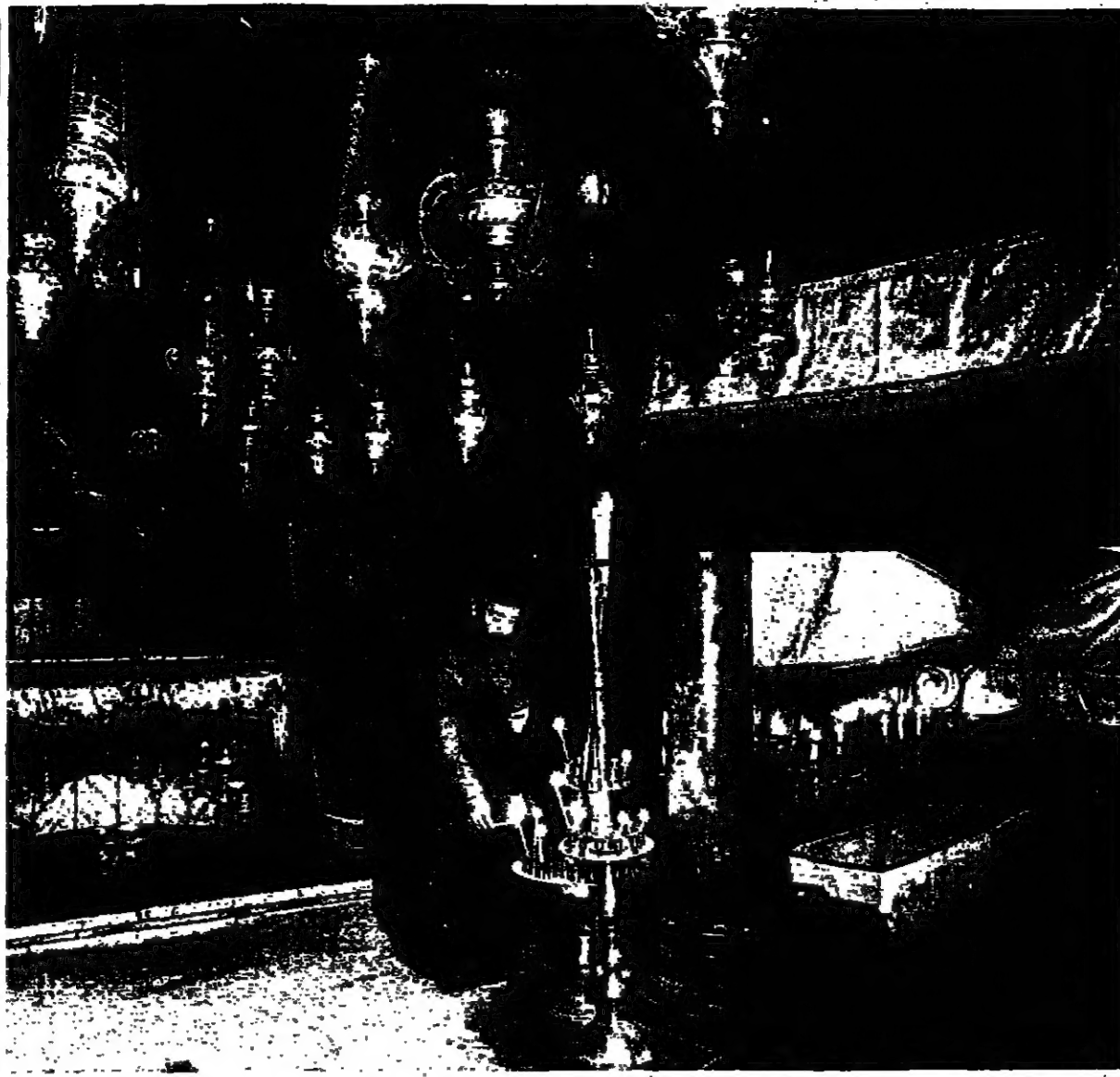
The next project involved a young South African, Julian Stein, who last summer worked with his six horses at the Ashkelon Holiday Camp. This closes in the winter, however, so as soon as the summer season was over Muki brought him down, with his horses, two donkeys and two dogs, built a stable at the Sun Bay Hotel (also operated by Ya'Alat) and started riding tours for tourists — and for enthusiastic Eilat youngsters, many of whom had never seen a horse close-up. From horses to camels is a natural development in the desert, so

when Belgian-born Avner Gruszkow turned up with a plan for camel tours Muki gladly agreed to include them in the Ya'Alat tours programme. Designed for tourists who want a taste of adventure without too much discomfort, the excursions include transportation to and from the hotels to Wadi Twaibe, some 12 kilometres south of Eilat, where Avner awaits them with his two Beduin helpers and 10 camels. The camel-ride itself takes about an hour and a quarter, going into the Wadi to view the 2nd century Nabatean and Greek rock-drawings. After explanations and exploration on foot, there is a leisurely ride back in time for tea with the Beduin — before returning to civilization. The whole trip, which is similar to those operated with great success in Morocco, Tunisia and Jordan, costs \$9.50 per person, and is available daily, except Thursdays.

This winter, Meltzer has gone in for two other projects. The first has been to provide the tourists with a sandy, broken-glass free beach where they can sunbathe without being blasted by the north wind which can blow very cold from the Arava in the winter. He closed off a portion of the Sun Bay Hotels beach, shaved off the top layer of pebbles by tractor, closed it on three sides with straw matting brought down from the Galilee and filled it with clean, golden sand trucked in from the Timna Valley. Naming it the Tjaereborg Beach, to make the Scandinavians feel at home, there are sun shades, deck-chairs, and soft drinks for sale from plastic cups (no glass is allowed on the beach). Admission is free.

The other project has been for the benefit of tourists who like a drink. The first step was to persuade all the hotels in Eilat to lower the price of beer, and not to raise the price of wine. The second was to inaugurate a weekly Beer Party, which is held every Friday evening at the Sun Bay. With an orchestra, dancing, and as much beer as you can drink, the all-inclusive price is only \$5.

With all these new attractions running smoothly, Muki has planned a Super Christmas Happening on Coral Island for this week-end. Last year it was the first Christmas to be celebrated on the island for 800 years with 500 tourists singing, swimming, dancing and eating freshly fried fish.



Orthodox monk lights candles in the Grotto of the Nativity, the traditional birthplace of Jesus. Roman Catholic masses will be celebrated there early Christmas morning, following the High Pontifical Midnight Mass and throughout Christmas Day. The Orthodox Christmas is celebrated on January 8. (W. Braun)

Masses in many tongues

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

ROMAN CATHOLICS in Israel will be among the few members of their faith to hear the mass in Latin this year. As most of the world, the mass is celebrated in the vernacular.

In Jerusalem, Christmas midnight masses in Latin will be heard at the Latin Patriarchate, inside the Jaffa Gate and at Terra Santa College, near the King's Hotel. A source said that the traditional church language would be used because the congregations were expected to include the faithful of many different countries, with no common language.

In Bethlehem, the midnight Pontifical High mass will be in Arabic and Latin. The Church of St. Catherine, the Roman Catholic sanctuary adjoining the Church of the Nativity, only holds 800 worshippers and places at the midnight mass there are much in demand. Tickets for the service are distributed by the Christian Information Centre, inside the Jaffa Gate.

Those unable to get into the church will be able to see the mass on a giant television screen in the Manger Square in Bethlehem.

Masses at the altar of the manger will continue on Christmas night and Christmas Day, to accommodate the many Catholics unable to attend the Pontifical High mass.

Meanwhile, in Jerusalem, the mass will be celebrated in Arabic, French and English, in addition to Latin. At the Armenian Catholic Patriarchate, at the third station of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa, the mass will be in Armenian.

Most Armenians, however, will mark Christmas on the date traditional for their faith, January 18. This will be the third and final Christmas celebration in the Holy Land. The second is that of the Greek Orthodox on January 8.

Protestants too will be able to choose from a variety of languages in which to pray, including English, Arabic, German, and Danish. The Protestant festivities will begin with a carol service on Friday at 3.30 p.m. in Shepherd's Field, sponsored by the East Jerusalem YMCA.

On Christmas Eve, some 10 choirs are expected to participate in a gathering of choirs and orchestras in Bethlehem's Manger Square. The choirs include groups from the U.S., South Africa, Australia, Sweden and Great Britain.

Haya Fischer, director of the Tourism Ministry Pilgrimage Division, said this week that all those wishing to visit Bethlehem on Christmas Eve must have a permit. She said that for groups, the agents were to obtain the permits from the Tourism Ministry. Organized groups would enter the town in their own buses, she said.

Individual tourists should apply for permits to the Tourism Ministry information centres. Residents and temporary residents should go to the Interior Ministry for their permit and diplomats should apply to the Foreign Ministry.

Buses to Bethlehem will leave every few minutes from Jaffa Gate and the East Jerusalem bus station, starting at 4 p.m. on Friday. Round trip fare for the special service will be IL28.50. For those going from Tel Aviv, the round-trip fare will be IL45, from Netanya, IL60, and from Eilat, IL90. The shared taxi fare will be IL4 one way, from Jerusalem to Rachel's Tomb, and IL2.50 from Rachel's Tomb to the centre of Bethlehem. After midnight, a special service from Bethlehem to Tel Aviv will be IL29.

Winter tourism reaches new highs

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TOURISM DURING the winter months has already reached new highs this year and the trend is expected to continue, according to Tourism Ministry spokesman Michael Gidron.

The number of visitors in December is expected to reach 70,000, far exceeding last year's total of 61,700, he said. In the peak tourism year of 1975, the total was only 44,500. In November of this year the total number of tourists was some 50,000, compared with 26,800 last year and 37,300 in 1972.

The spokesman attributed the rise in what was once a dead season for tourism both to Israel's geographic advantages and to the planning which has made warm sites available to visitors.

For example, there are now seven charter flights a week to Eilat. The groups come from Scandinavia, West Germany and England. This has, in effect, stretched the Eilat season from October to May, adding two months to tourist activity in the Red Sea port, he noted.

Another favourite winter location is the Dead Sea, whose 600 hotel rooms are now filled to capacity. There are eight European countries whose sickness insurance funds recognize the Dead Sea as a health spa and pay for treatment there. The latest country to make this move was Sweden.

Other winter spots include Netanya and Tiberias, both of which have benefited from development in the last 10 years.

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Bethlehem schedule

Christmas Eve
12.30 p.m. His Beatitude the Latin Patriarch, accompanied by clergy, leaves the Latin Patriarchate, Jerusalem, for the square opposite the Citadel in Jaffa Gate where they collect their cars for the procession to Bethlehem.

1.00 p.m. At the Tomb of Rachel, His Beatitude is welcomed by representatives of the Municipality of Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahur, who then join the procession.

1.15 p.m. A Latin vested procession comes out of the Basilica of the Nativity from its main iron door to the Manger Square where it takes position.

1.30 p.m. His Beatitude the Latin Patriarch arrives at the Manger Square, Bethlehem.

2.00 p.m. Vespers in the Church of St. Catherine are held.

4.00 p.m. Procession, headed by His Beatitude the Patriarch, of the representatives starts from the Church of St. Catherine and proceeds via its southern door, the northern transept of the Basilica of Nativity and the northern staircase to the Grotto of the Nativity, where a short service is held. At the end of this service the procession proceeds back via the door of the Grotto, the stairs leading from the Grotto to St. Catherine's Church, and thence to that Church, where the service ends at about 5.15 p.m.

10.25 p.m. His Beatitude, the Patriarch, proceeds from the Latin Convent to attend Mass at the Church of St. Catherine.

10.30 p.m. Latin Mass in the Church of St. Catherine begins.

12.00 p.m. The Latin Pontifical High Mass in the Church of St. Catherine starts.

Christmas Day
1.30 a.m. The Latin Pontifical High Mass in St. Catherine's Church ends and is followed by the chanting of the Laude.

2.00 a.m. The Latin procession headed by His Beatitude the Patriarch.

2.30 a.m. After the incensing of the Grotto by the Greek Orthodox is completed, the Latin Low Masses at the Altar of the Manger commence, end about 6.30 a.m.



View over Shepherd's Field. (A. Bernheim)

1.00 a.m. Latin Low Masses at the Altar of the Manger in the Grotto of the Nativity start, and continue until 5.15 p.m. approximately.

5.00 a.m. Latin Pontifical High Mass in the Church of St. Catherine starts.

10.30 a.m. Latin Pontifical High Mass in the Church of St. Catherine ends.

2.00 p.m. His Beatitude the Latin Patriarch leaves Bethlehem from the main iron door of the Basilica.

2.30 p.m. Pilgrimage from the Church of St. Catherine to the Grotto of the Shepherd at Beit Sahur starts. Service at the Grotto will be held for about 15 to 20 minutes, at the end of which the procession starts back to St. Catherine's Church.



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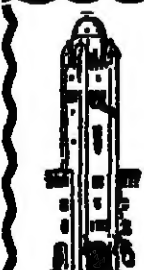
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(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice

Notice is hereby given that an Application by Motion has been filed at the District Court Haifa in file No. MO 2309/76 petitioning the Court to rule that the list of Shareholders of Carmel Gardens Ltd. on the date when the Resolution for Winding-up of the Company was passed, i.e. 31.5.1971, shall be deemed to be in accordance with a list submitted to the Court.

Any person claiming to have been a Shareholder of the Company on the above mentioned date, i.e. 31.5.1971, or to have had any rights in or to such shares or any right of claim whatsoever against the Company, is invited to write within 30 days of this Notice to the liquidators and/or the Chief Clerk of the District Court Haifa and to produce supporting evidence.

Dr. Menachem Shrem and Adv. Jacob Shatzman
Joint Liquidators
P.O.B. 224, Haifa

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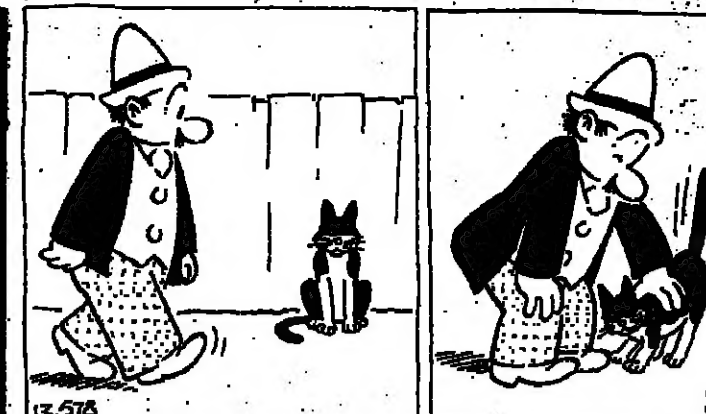
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EDUCATIONAL: 18.00 History:

Alexander the Great. 18.00 Hamukha songs. 18.30 A Hamukha story by Shalom Aleichem. 17.00 William Shakespeare: Macbeth (part one).

CELESTIALS PROGRESS: 17.30 "Teleplay": series based on the book by Tove Jansson.

18.00 Cartoon.

ARABIC LANGUAGE programmes: 18.30 News roundup.

18.35 We Chose For You! Programme including selections from films, songs and dances.

19.00 I have a Question: A panel answers questions from listeners.

19.30 News.

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at 20.00 with the lighting of the eighth Hanukkah candles by members of Shalom Aleichem.

20.05 Match of the Week. 20.50 Programme trailer.

21.00 Mabat newsworld.

21.30 Kolbot.

22.00 A Question of Survival: The first of two science documentaries examining the consequences of man's interference with his environment, and of his increased appetite for energy. Part I: Public Poison.

23.00 Western - The High Chaparral: The Widow from Red Rock.

23.40 News.

JORDAN TV (official): 18.15" Cartoon. 19.00 Documentary. 19.30 News in Hebrew. 20.00 News in Arabic. 20.30 News in English. 21.00 News in English. 21.30 Petrocelli.

*Shows with asterisks are also on JTV 2.

CINEMAS

TEL AVIV 4.30, 7.15, 9.30

Alleyway: The Scarlet Buccaneer 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Ben Yehuda: Victory at Entebbe; Cinema One: Zannan Family 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Two: Nights of Cabiria; Cinema Three: Midway 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Four: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Five: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Six: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Seven: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Eight: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Nine: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Ten: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Eleven: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Twelve: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Thirteen: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Fourteen: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Fifteen: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Sixteen: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Cinema Seventeen: The House of the Living Dead 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; 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Issue of local elections

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS raised by this week's dramatic resignation of Prime Minister Rabin, which certainly did not figure in his original calculations, is the timing of the elections to the local authorities. Under law these were to be held concurrently with balloting to the Knesset on November 1. Now that the Knesset poll is certain to take place in the late spring, the fate of the local government elections is up in the air.

Three proposals have been under consideration during the last few days: retaining the original November 1 date for the local elections; holding them together with the Knesset elections in the spring; or putting them off to some date in 1978.

The latter suggestion is undoubtedly the worst of the three. We have had a long history of playing fast and loose with voting dates for nearly all elective institutions, excepting the Knesset. This has been true, in varying degrees, for the World Zionist Congress, the Histadrut, national trade unions, local authorities, and internal party organs.

In recent years there has been the beginning of a trend towards greater observance of the letter of the law in regard to election dates. Postponing local government elections to 1978 would be a deplorable reversion to our older, reprehensible ways. The major argument offered in favour of keeping the same date for the local and Knesset elections is that it would help save money. Duplicate elections, it is said, would cost double the money — not to mention double the wear and tear on political nerves.

While there is a measure of validity to this claim, there is also no little degree of effrontery to it, considering its source. The very people now crying "economy" are the ones who have inflated Treasury payments to the political parties by some tens of millions of pounds annually, and to over IL20m. this year — all of it fully linked to the index. This has been defended on the ground that political parties are the lifeblood of democracy, and that democracy does not come cheap. Well, neither do elections.

Moreover, there is a telling argument for the separation — not only next year, but as a regular practice — of national and local elections. This is the need to emphasize the paramountcy of local issues in local elections. The bias against municipal government built into our political system has had disastrous effects on the quality of our life.

The principle of separation acquires special importance now that we enter a new era in local government with the entry into force of the law on the direct election of mayors and heads of local councils. Under the new law, already applied in the Nazareth elections last December, there will be separate voting for mayors and local council members. In the case of mayoralty elections only candidates receiving at least 40 per cent of the vote will be elected outright.

This means, in effect, that in most of the local authorities run-off elections between the two leading candidates will probably have to be held. In order to ensure adequate participation in the council run-off vote, the entire process must be detached from the hubbub surrounding a national poll.

No tampering with the economy

WHATEVER THE MAKE-UP of the Cabinet that succeeds the coalition Prime Minister Rabin dissolved on Monday, it will be a caretaker administration until the elections due next year. The first necessity is to make sure that interim government does not turn out to be bad government.

This warning concerns the Opposition as well as those in the seat of power. There are hints that the Likud, in a proper electioneering spirit, are going to stonewall tax legislation. Their hope presumably is not to weaken the Government, since there is nothing to weaken: the Alignment will be marking time until polling day. The objective among Mr. Begin's men can only be — to find favour with the public.

The public lost faith in the last Government's economic policy because it failed to control inflation. Yet Finance Minister Rabinowitz deserves credit for trying his best to augment revenue and cut expenditure. He succeeded only in part. Critics said he was still oversteering — for practising the sin of deficit budgeting.

Three fiscal measures are to be tabled in the Knesset shortly: a new property tax arrangement, a prolongation of the payroll tax, and a prolongation of the Defence Loan. If these measures are not passed, the revenue accounts will be short of IL2,000m. during the coming fiscal year. To block these laws would mean to widen an already sizable deficit in Mr. Rabinowitz's budget; in other words, to give a further fillip to inflation.

The question facing every faction in the coming months is what kind of policy to propound: whether to court cheap publicity by advocating more purchasing-power, bigger allowances, cheaper housing and lower taxes; or to offer a hard prospect of self-discipline and self-restraint, designed to serve the long-term national interest.

The public senses more than before the gravity of the ordeals that are going to face the nation after the parliamentary elections. All sides in the coming political debate would do well to bear that in mind.

ISRAEL PRESS

After the resignation

DAVAR (Histadrut) asserts that, in the conditions created, "the only practical possibility" is for the Rabin Government to serve as a transition government until the forthcoming elections. Speculation about the formation of an alternative government, without the Labour Party, "is not serious," for no such alternative will be able to gain a majority in the Knesset. AL HAMISHMAR (Mapam) avers that Begin's attempt to form a "government of the right" until the elections is in effect an "anti-Alignment, anti-work" tactic and all the possible components of such a government "have nothing programmatic in common, but only hatred for the Labour Movement." The paper expresses the hope that "this exercise of Begin's" will fail and that a law for dispersing the Knesset will be quickly enacted. HATZOFEN (National Religious Party) believes that Rabin's move are "the antithesis to democratic rules of administration," for the Premier "has manoeuvred so as to concentrate the entire government in the hands of one party during the election campaign."

HA'ARETZ (Independent) addresses itself to the plight of the two Independent Liberal Ministers, and points out that the relevant law was enacted in order to prevent the creation of a vacuum in the executive branch during a transition period. The paper calls on Kol and Haamer to remain in the government. "This will not forestall their lending a hand to the establishment of a Liberal Centre, if they so desire," and if anyone claims that they couldn't bear to give up their posts, "they can contend that all this evil has befallen them because of their desperate attempt to attain fulfilment of their just demands regarding health insurance, compulsory arbitration and reform in the structure of the government ministries."

MA'ARIV (Independent), noting that the Interior Ministry could complete preparations for elections within two months, wonders what justification there is for holding them in five, as the Alignment is about to propose. "A transition government without a majority and which cannot be toppled and which is immune to a no-confidence motion, is a necessity in an interim period."

Plan for a caretaker government

By MISHA LOUVINE

FOR THE FIRST TIME in its history, Israel now has a Labour Government free from the constraints of coalition. (The presence of two reluctant ILP ministers will not make much of a difference). The Government will, of course, be hampered by the lack of a Knesset majority; yet in this entirely novel situation the Government will enjoy vast new opportunities — and important responsibilities as well.

There can now be no more alibis. During the next two or three months, the electorate will be watching to see how Labour is running the country. The ruling party will have no one to blame but itself if it flunks the test.

It should be emphasized that a Cabinet that has resigned — but is continuing in office as a so-called "caretaker" — is not only entitled but is duty-bound to exercise all the functions of government, until a replacement has been formed. The only practical limitations on its freedom of action will be those which derive from the powers possessed by the Knesset.

The situation during the coming period, until after the elections, will be similar, in some respects, to the constitutional set-up in the United States. Like an American President, the Israeli Premier will have control of the administrative machinery, but he will have to use persuasion to obtain parliamentary support.

FOR A START, Mr. Rabin should immediately take the first steps in the reorganization of the governmental machinery. Although he cannot co-opt additional ministers, his Cabinet is empowered to redistribute the functions of its members. Instead of merely en-

trusting the Social Welfare Ministry to one of the ministers, for example, the Premier could set up at once a Ministry of Social Betterment, comprising health and some other departments.

Another reform, already agreed upon in principle, is the expansion of the Housing Ministry to comprise public works, physical planning, and allied activities. Religious Affairs could be combined with Interior, and Tourism with Transportation or with Commerce and Industry.

In implementing these reforms, the Premier could carry out a limited reshuffle of the Cabinet. Of course, he cannot bring in new ministers, but some promising younger men could be enabled to show their mettle by having them appointed as deputy ministers. This would help take some of the load off the shoulders of Cabinet members, who are now rather fewer in number.

In dealing with economic affairs, the Government will certainly be hamstrung by the fact that it can be easily outvoted by the Opposition in the legislature. But it should not be afraid to take bold decisions and challenge the Opposition to take the responsibility for frustrating measures that are clearly in the public interest. The Government must show its authority in handling exorbitant wage claims; a display of weakness in this area would be disastrous. Labour representatives in

the Histadrut, who have recently been acting in opposition to their comrades in the Cabinet, should consider carefully whether the workers would be better off under a Likud-dominated Government. Nothing would so gravely discredit Labour as an epidemic of wage disputes.

LABOUR HAS BEEN accused by Professor Yadin and others of doing nothing to implement its declared policy of electoral reform. This measure is at present held up in committee, not only by the obstruction of the committee chairman but by new demands presented by the Liberals, who originally undertook to support it. Labour should make one last effort to get agreement with the Liberals and, if that proves impossible, put the draft reform bill to the vote in committee. If it is defeated there, it should be resubmitted to the Knesset, so that the responsibility for the defeat of this vitally important reform should be made perfectly clear.

With regard to negotiations for a peace settlement with Israel's Arab neighbours, the Government has formal authority to pursue its policy, but it could not commit the country to any definite agreements until after the election. In the meantime, it should demonstrate its positions by pushing forward with the discussions, through the U.S., with a view to the reconvening of the Geneva Conference or the opening of talks on a partial accord. In any case, the electorate should be able to see clearly the direction in which the Government is moving, so that they may be able to hand down a meaningful verdict at the polls.

POSTSCRIPTS



Saul Bellow (Rubinger)

NOBEL Literature Prize laureate Saul Bellow passed through London on his way back from the Stockholm award ceremony and used the opportunity to attend a seminar being held there in solidarity with the Jewish Symposium in Moscow.

He told the gathering that his presence "spoke for itself." He added that he would not make a formal speech, but only tell of a moving experience he had had during the Nobel Prize ceremony.

"A man came up to me and said in Yiddish: 'I am a Jew born in Poland.' When I asked what had brought him to the Stockholm ceremony, he replied: 'I came to get nachas (to feel good).'"

Bellow added: "I've come here to get nachas, too."

A BUSY Jerusalem insurance executive was looking for an unusual way of entertaining his small children during this week's school holidays.

Possibly inspired by the railway hikes described in this paper's Midweek Magazine by train, and found that certain passenger trains from Jerusalem and from Tel Aviv arrived at Beit Shemesh at the same time. He phoned the station-master there and asked whether it would be possible for passengers to change trains during the brief stop.

The station-master was more than helpful. Not only was the change possible, but he himself would see that the transfer was comfortably achieved.

As good as his word, he was there to meet the travellers on their arrival, took them to the other train, waited on the platform until they were safely aboard, gave a smart signal to the engine-driver, wished them "bon voyage" — and won for Israel Railways three firm friends in Jerusalem. There have not been so many of them since the days of the late David Remez, first Minister of Transport.

WUJS is the uninspiring acronym denoting the World Union of Jewish Students, which is presumably the nursery of future Israeli leadership. If it were not the normal presumption, there would be little newsworthy in a statement contained in the report by the outgoing chairman of WUJS.

Mr. Ron Finkel, who has headed the students' activities for the past three years, now states that "The World Union of Jewish Students regards the Middle East situation as a conflict between the two rights." WUJS, which is supported by funds from the World Jewish Congress and the Jewish Agency, also prides itself on its campaign for human rights for Jews in the USSR and for blacks in South Africa.

The Organization is to hold a congress in Oxford in the first week of January and hopes that a delegate from Cuba will be among the 120 representatives expected from 35 countries.

READERS' LETTERS

ISRAEL-BORN AMERICAN JEWS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I read with interest and sympathy the appeal of Dr. Joseph Kopecky to be allowed to visit his mother in Israel. (On December 7, Dr. Kopecky complained because the Israeli Consulate in Los Angeles had informed him that, since he was born in Israel 27 years ago and had already visited here when he was 18 and 20 years old, he could not do so again without being drafted. — Ed. J.P.)

I came to Israel as a Mahal specialist and served in a senior rank. My son had the apparent misfortune of being born in Israel during the period of my Mahal service. He was registered as a U.S. citizen at a time when we were not even officially residents. After serving for an additional period as an approved foreign expert (Sec.14), I returned to the U.S. with my family in 1968.

As involved Jews we made the further mistake of sending our son to Israel for a one-month summer visit when he was 18. When he married, his honeymoon trip included a three-week stay in Israel. What was to be an opportunity to see the country, turned into an almost three-week nightmare at various Defence Ministry offices attempting to get permission to leave the country. He and his bride saw nothing, wasted their fare and left discouraged and disillusioned.

Then in 1973 we apparently committed our final error. We came on aliyah and, in fact, four of our children and seven grandchildren have come as well.

Since I served as an officer in both the U.S. Navy and in the I.D.F., I can hardly be considered one who condones military service, apparently the purpose behind this unfair regulation.

Certainly, no credit is due for volunteer service to the country. However, we find ourselves penalized instead. We cannot enjoy a visit from our son and his family, nor can his siblings. If we of the Israeli branch of the family wish to visit him (all 16 of us), besides the cost of transportation, we must pay

"STOP ARGUING — CONFESS"

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I noted with a degree of anxiety the heading of the recent episode of "Siberian Odyssey": "Stop arguing — confess" (Midweek Magazine, December 7).

This unfortunately seems to typify the Israeli police force attitude to suspects, especially if they are, or were, people of relative importance within the community. Surely a nation of people who have suffered in many societies due to repressive and unjust laws would attempt to assure that they themselves did not assume police state tactics. I cannot understand the public apathy to a system which allows seemingly endless remands until a confession is given.

P. SCEVITY
Kibbutz Sde Boker.

ISRAEL RAILWAYS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — With reference to your article "Driving in torture" (November 26), I would suggest that Israelis make more use of their railways in order to ease the burden on the roads. As a tourist in Israel, I travelled extensively on the railways and found them very comfortable. I read in an earlier issue of The Jerusalem Post that there is a project to cut a new railway from Dimona to Eilat — the sooner this is completed, the better for Israel.

May I suggest a station on the Haifa-Jerusalem line near Ben-Gurion airport which the railway skirts? Remember, your railways are directly and indirectly saving lives.

WILLIAM FINOX
Birmingham, England.

thousands of pounds in travel taxes. In these days of agonizing over why there is so little aliyah, would it not be worthwhile to deal sympathetically with these patently unreasonable situations?

RICHARD D. ROSENBERG

Haifa: Sir, — May I remind Mr. Kopecky that there are some thousands of Americans who had the bad luck and committed the "sin" of being born in the United States; later they refused to serve their country in Vietnam and, till today, many of them cannot return to their homes. As a Jew and an Israeli-born one, Mr. Kopecky has also some duties to his people and country of birth, the same as any American has, and if he does not fulfil them, he and people like him are considered deserters, just as the above-mentioned Americans are.

J.E. SIMON

Haifa: Sir, — May I remind Dr. Kopecky that there are thousands of American-born Israelis like my husband (in his forties) or European-born Israelis like my son-in-law who are getting "close" to Israel by living here, serving in the army and putting their lives on the line so that nice Californians like the good doctor can visit Israel and get to know her and her people.

YARDA KLEIMAN
Kibbutz Givat Haim: Sir, — I am an American-born Israeli Jew. The U.S. Government does not prevent me from visiting my "homeland" because, when I was 17 years old (although I knew that I would be moving to Israel), I paid my debt to the land of my birth by serving in the U.S. Army. I have friends who cannot visit America, because they refused to serve in the armed forces of the U.S. and came to Israel.

However, if Dr. Kopecky does not want to do his duty to Israel, he could still see his mother by buying her a ticket to visit him in the Golden Medina.

ILAN ARIEL
Jerusalem

BERLIN'S JEWS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I refer to Mr. Ernst P.J. Rosenberg's letter (November 18) in which he denies that the Berlin Senate Government Mayor Klaus Schütz, and his predecessors tried to make Berlin attractive to Jews. The Mayor of Berlin does not need to be defended by others, but truth demands that Mr. Rosenberg's view be corrected.

As the Chairman of the Jewish Community of Berlin since 1949, I have enough information at my disposal to state the numbers in Germany was so much done to revive Jewish life after the Holocaust in Berlin.

The agreement between the Jewish Community of Berlin and the Berlin authorities, who are in power since 1971, clearly defines the Jewish Community's legal position and also provides subsidies for several Jewish activities in Berlin. Furthermore, the Berlin Senate has, for many years, invited members of the former Jewish Community who were forced to leave during the Nazi era to visit their native city. Nothing similar was done anywhere else in Germany.

In conclusion, I would like to point out that, within the past two years alone, almost 1,000 Jews have settled in Berlin.

HEINZ GALINSKI
Chairman of the Jewish Community Berlin

Dry Bones



Middle East prospects

THE SAUDIS are throwing their full weight against an open door which they use oil policy to press the United States into pushing Israel to negotiate for a settlement in the Middle East. For the present Israeli regime, as the latest political developments make plain, is actually eager to negotiate.

As a result, the incoming Carter Administration now enjoys a double opportunity. It has the liberty to accommodate this country's interest in a just settlement in the Near East with its interest in a serious energy policy.

By Joseph Kraft
Washington

The Israeli eagerness to negotiate springs from the inner necessities of domestic politics. The dominant labour party of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin faces so much trouble in the form of inflation, strikes and internal division — that the only card it can play with public opinion is that of potential peacemaker.

Mr. Rabin has announced this fact in many different ways over the past few weeks. First he told visitors, including this columnist, that he intended to go to the country on the peace issue in the elections due next year.

Next he passed the word discreetly to both the Ford Administration and senior foreign policy officials of the incoming Carter Administration. That job was done by a supposed Israeli hawk, Defence Minister Shimon Peres.

MR. PERES met with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in Washington on the afternoon of Dec. 11. That evening he met with Secretary of State-designate Cyrus Vance and Mr. Carter's appointee as National Security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, at the home of Warren Manahel, a New York banker and publisher. Mr. Brzezinski came away from that session convinced that the internal competition in Israel was to be a peacemaker, not a hawk.

Finally, there has been the break with the coalition party most opposed to concession of territories — the National Religious Party. That cleared the way for an early election in which Mr. Rabin can go to the country asking for a mandate to make concessions.

In these circumstances the pressure to negotiate from Saudi by Ambassador Ali Raza with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, are not so far from the Israeli notions.

Moreover, the oil policy selected by the Saudis as a means of pressure on Washington is by no means unwelcome. In order to impress the U.S., the Saudis, it may be recalled, have split with other countries in



Double opportunity

OPEC. While the other OPEC countries decided to raise oil prices by 10 per cent now and 5 per cent in 90 days, the Saudis and their proteges, the United Arab Emirates, have elected to increase prices by only 5 per cent now.

The immediate upshot is a slightly smaller price increase than otherwise would have obtained. That, in itself, is a slight gain.

The gain can be made a good deal bigger given present circumstances in the U.S. My strong impression is that America, after a couple of years of infighting, has finally achieved a general consensus that something needs to be done about dependence on foreign oil.

FURTHERMORE, it is already clear that the Democrats can take one vital step which they would not let the Republicans take. Because they are not suspected of being flaks for industry, the Democrats can allow prices to rise. The price increase will go a long way — on top of measures already taken — to foster energy conservation in the U.S.

One final, and all-important, step is also open. President-elect Carter can flash to the world that he is dead serious about putting together a coherent energy policy. He can do that by naming former Defence Secretary James Schlesinger as energy czar, with the all-out mandate Mr. Schlesinger seeks as a condition for taking the job.

The U.S. would then be in a strong position to make the most of the double opportunity. It could foster Saudi moderation on price by going for the serious negotiations which the Israelis want anyhow. It can use Saudi moderation on price to prevent the OPEC hawks from truly devastating rises. The gradual rise which is inevitable are merely a spur to the one thing this country most needs in the energy field — a coherent long-term programme.

Managing all this, to be sure, is no going to be simple, especially for new boys. Progress, far from coming overnight, will have to be strung out over months and years. But for the first time, there is manoeuvring room, leeway to play the oil-Middle Eastern hand as it should be played.



The Menten Affair...

...Henrietta Boas reports from Amsterdam on the case of the Dutch millionaire — and Nazi war criminal Pieter Menten. OPEC and the oil price hike: Shmuel Yaari looks at the recent "split" among the oil-producers.

WOODOO: Aliza Auerbach brings back some startling photographs of a black magic ceremony in Haiti. CHRISTIAN SHRINES in Galilee are visited by Sylvia Mann. COLUMNS BY Lea Ben Dor, Helga Rudman, Alex Berlyne, Moshe Kohn and Ephraim Rishon.

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